

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : Confirmation No.: 7530
:
Vijay K. BHAGAVATH et al. : Attorney Ref.: 1999-0494-Con
:
Serial No.: 11/195,923 : Art Unit: 2623
:
Filed: April 24, 2004 : Examiner: Jivka Rabovianski
:
FOR: NETWORK-BASED SERVICE TO PROVIDE ON-DEMAND VIDEO
SUMMARIES OF TELEVISION PROGRAMS

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

Honorable Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks

Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Sir:

We, Vijay K. Bhagavath, Robert Edward Markowitz, and Joseph Thomas O'Neil, have reviewed and understand the following statements. We hereby make the following statements based on information and belief we believe to be true, with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001:

1. We conceived the invention of network-based service to provide on-demand video summaries of television programs at least as of 13 August 1999 as shown by an internal patent review document. A copy of this document is attached as Exhibit A.
2. On 23 August 1999, Vijay Bhagavath emailed the internal patent review document and a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation related to the invention to

Joyce L. Burns of AT&T for patent review. A copy of this email is attached as Exhibit B.

Vijay K. Bhagavath

Date



Robert Edward Markowitz

02/26/2009

Date

Joseph Thomas O'Neil

Date

Exhibit A

1999-0494

Patent Review:

SUBJECT: A Network-Based Service to Provide
On-Demand Video Summaries of Television Programs

OBJECTIVE: (WHAT problem does the proposal solve or what purpose
does it serve?)

This invention provides a new service for customers who receive
television programming from AT&T.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: (1. What is it? 2. How does it operate?
Rely on attachments for detailed description)

This invention allows customers who receive television
programming on cable or xDSL access links to view
"video summaries". A summary is an abbreviated version of
a program. It may contain audio, snapshots, and full-motion
video that have been extracted from a program. Alternatively,
the content of a summary may be independent of the content of
its associated program.

Some key features of this invention are: (1) A customer can view
several summaries to choose a program for viewing. (2) "Video
hyperlinks" allow a customer to efficiently view a segment from
a program that is associated with a segment from a summary.
(3) "Interrupted viewing" allows a customer to view a summary of
content that he or she missed during a broadcast. (4) "Live
summaries" can be incrementally generated during live television
broadcasts such as the Academy Awards, World Series, and Super
Bowl. (5) A customer can use a summary to indicate the segments
of a program that he or she wishes to record.

One embodiment of this invention for cable access requires
enhancements to the set top boxes (STBs) at the customer premises.
Specifically, a STB must: (1) receive programs and summaries from
an AT&T POP, (2) use profile and history information to select the
program and summary segments to be stored, and (3) provide a user
interface for this service. Another embodiment of this invention
uses video summary servers (VSSs) at AT&T POPs to store programs
and summaries for xDSL customers.

In both embodiments, broadcasters transmit summaries that include
the information required for the features of this invention. This
is accomplished by using the capabilities outlined in the MPEG-2
standards for digital video.

AT&T is uniquely positioned to offer video summaries as a
network-based service. Customers can be charged for this application
on a subscription or transaction basis. Television broadcasters can

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also be charged for the ability to deliver summaries to customers.

(SEE ATTACHED VIEWGRAPHS FOR MORE DETAILS.)

USE: (1. What is the probability of commercial use?

By AT&T? By others?

2. Is it scheduled for use in an AT&T product or service?

3. Which one, and when?

4. Is this idea likely to be adopted by others? If so, to what extent? Why?

5. Is it likely to become a standard?

6. Do you see applications for the idea other than the one described above?)

1. The probability of commercial use by AT&T and others is high. AT&T has spent tens of billions of dollars to acquire cable access links to customers. This invention is a value-added service that can be offered to those customers.

2, 3. Not yet. (It is a new idea!)

4. Yes. The features in this invention enable a customer to efficiently scan and assimilate video information.

5. It is a bit premature to estimate whether the techniques proposed in this invention will become a standard. AT&T can partner with broadcasters and set top box manufactures so that the ideas in this patent can be standardized.

6. The most common application of this invention will be for consumer television. However, other applications can be envisioned. For example, this technology allows a person to efficiently scan any archived form of video.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: (1. What is the expected annual sales volume or revenue of products or services to which this proposal applies, if used? Please give details.)

TBD

PRIORITY RATING: (1. Originators' consensus rating.

2. Department Head's rating)

IMPORTANT

BUSINESS UNIT INFORMATION: (1. In what Business Unit will the invention be used?

2. Who is the business Unit contact person e.g. product or service manager?)

The service described in this invention can be deployed by the business units that deliver television programming to customers.

SUBMITTERS:

1. Vijay Bhagavath, FP 3E33, 973-236-6923, 644-07-3747, 1FPB00000

2. Robert Markowitz, MT 2B05, 732-420-3840, ?, HA2912000

Vijay Bhagavath
8/12/99

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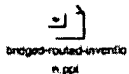
3. Joseph O'Neil, MT D52D12, 732-420-3647, 070-50-3205, HA2134000

Exhibit B

1999-0494

Burns, Joyce L - LGA

From: bhagavath@att.com
Sent: Monday, August 23, 1999 10:54 AM
To: jbburns@att.com
Subject: Video Summaries Invention Softcopy



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